UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/005,985	11/12/2001	Gene E. Nacey	569.013	9262

35195   7590   05/10/2006

FERENCE & ASSOCIATES
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EXAMINER
BONSHOCK, DENNIS G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	

DATE MAILED: 05/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/005,985	NACEY, GENE E.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Dennis G. Bonshock	2173	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *13 March 2006*.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-37* is/are pending in the application.
   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-37* is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)
1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Final Rejection

Response to Amendment

1.   It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and

placed on record in the file: Amendment as received on 3-13-2006.

2.   Claims 1-37 have been examined.

Status of Claims:

3.   Claims 1-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Kuban et al., Patent #4,994,908, hereinafter Kuban and Crawford, Jr., Patent

#5,331,549, hereinafter Crawford.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

5.   Claims 1-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Kuban et al., Patent #4,994,908, hereinafter Kuban and Crawford, Jr., Patent

#5,331,549, hereinafter Crawford.

6.   With regard to claim 1, which teaches an apparatus for the graphical display of

room information, the apparatus comprising, a display and an arrangement for

producing a cell for being viewed on the display, the cell conveying information

regarding a room, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3, the display

comprising cells where the cells display information regarding the current status of a

room. Kuban further teaches, in column 13, lines 5-55 and in figure 3-5, cells under

"CURRENT STATUS" that contain a plurality of modifiable attributes, namely the user

can make the selected room status either "Occupied" or "Vacant" and also either

"Clean" or "Dirty", these updated statuses are then displayed in the tabular display in the

same cell. These room statuses are initially set to preset "historical room status" values

before the user begins modifying (see column 13, lines 56-67). Crawford teaches a

system for monitoring remote systems (see abstract), similar to that of Kuban, but

displays the cell in a manner that more closely resembles that of the claimed invention

(see figures 3 and 4). Crawford's initial screen displays a plurality of rooms available for

selection for closer view and modification (see column 5, line 46 through column 6, line

34 and figures 3 and 4), and the zoom-in screen that calls up details for a particular

room, where the user is able to modify attributes (alter the vital sign limits, signs

monitored, patient status, etc.) and view other preset attributes (room number, data,

time, measured values, etc.) (see column 6, lines 34-59 and figures 3 and 4). Crawford

further teaches user-definable attributes (selected via window [72] for display) and pre-

set attributes (such as default vital signs displayed before user selection of window

[72]); and further teaches user-definable attribute values (see the customizable vital

sign limits of column 8, lines 29-40), which may be pre-set attribute values (see the

default vital sign limits of column 8, lines 26-29) (see column 8, lines 22-45, column 9,

lines 20-27, and figure 6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art,

having the teachings of Kuban and Crawford before him at the time the invention was

made to modify the tabular room status display system of Kuban to include the zoom-in

view as did Crawford. One would have been motivated to make such a combination

because this provides a more detailed view of a selected element on the display.

7.   With regard to claims 2 and 14, which teach an arrangement for producing a

matrix for being displayed on the display, the matrix being adapted to depict the rooms

for which information is conveyed, said arrangement for producing a cell comprising an

arrangement for producing a plurality of cells in conjunction with said matrix, wherein

each cell corresponds to a different one of the rooms for which information is conveyed,

Kuban further teaches, in column 13, lines 5-55 and in figure 3, a matrix that is used for

depicting the room information where the cells provide information for one or the

plurality of rooms.

8.   With regard to claims 3, 15, and 26, Kuban teach the system for conveying room

information for a plurality of rooms to a remote location in a matrix form (see column 4,

lines 30-61 and in figure 3). Kuban, however, doesn't specifically mention the cells

being adapted to display secondary information associated with each attribute of the

cell. Crawford teaches a system for monitoring remote systems (see abstract), similar to

that of Kuban, but further teaches that upon selection additional information can be

displayed for a specific element (see column 2, lines 44-47, column 6, lines 34-47, and

figures 3 and 4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having

the teachings of Kuban and Crawford before him at the time the invention was made to

modify the remote monitoring system of Kuban to include the focused information

screen as did Crawford. One would have been motivated to make such a combination

because this would allow for specific information (possibly a summery of room charges,

or special services requested) regarding the selected room to be displayed to the

people at the manager location.

9.   With regard to claims 4, 16, and 28, which teach the secondary information being

displayed solely to an authorized user of the apparatus, Kuban further teaches, in

column 4, lines 45-61, the manager being able to view specific information, an the

maid/inspector being able to see their own specific subset of information.

10.   With regard to claims 5 and 17, which teach the cell being adapted to modify an

attribute upon a prompt from an authorized user of the apparatus, Kuban further

teaches, in column 3, lines 51-53, the system being capable of input (ex: changing to a

cleaned status).

11.   With regard to claims 6, 18, and 30, which teach the room being a hospital room,

Kuban teaches, in column 5, lines 5-25, the communications or room status being used

in a hotel/hospital environment.

12.   With regard to claims 7, 19, and 31, which teach the room being a hotel room,

Kuban teaches, in column 5, lines 5-25, the communications or room status being used

in a hotel/hospital environment.

13   With regard to claims 8, 20, and 32, which teach the cell depicting a bed,

Crawford further teaches, in column 2, lines 44-47 and figures 3 and 4, the display of

bed information.

14.   With regard to claims 9, 21, and 33, which teach the cell indicating if the room is
unoccupied, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-39, the cell depicting either a
occupied or vacant for the room.

15.   With regard to claims 10, 22, and 34, which teach the cell indicating if the room is
occupied, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-39, the cell depicting either a occupied
or vacant for the room.

16.   With regard to claims 11, 23, and 35, which teach the cell indicating whether the
room is in a stat condition, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 46-51, the matrix
displaying a need to be made up indication.

17.   With regard to claims 12, 24, and 36, which teach the cell indicating whether a
bed within the room is being made, column 4, lines 40-45, the system knowing that a
room is in the process of being made up/inspected.

18.   With regard to claim 13, which teaches an apparatus for the graphical display of
room information, the apparatus comprising, a display and an arrangement for
producing a cell for being viewed on the display, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-
61 and in figure 3, the display comprising cells where the cells display information
regarding the current status of a room. With regard to claim 13, further teaching the cell
having a plurality of modifiable attributes, and a controller for modifying the modifiable
attributes, Kuban further teaches, in column 15, line 42 through column 16, line 2, the
maid going through the process in which a worker enters their ID, and enters the room
for processing, thereby changing the status of the room. Kuban further teaches, in
column 13, lines 5-55 and in figure 3-5, cells under "CURRENT STATUS" that contain a

plurality of modifiable attributes, namely the user can make the selected room status

either "Occupied" or "Vacant" and also either "Clean" or "Dirty", these updated statuses

are then displayed in the tabular display in the same cell. These room statuses are

initially set to preset "historical room status" values before the user begins modifying

(see column 13, lines 56-67). Crawford teaches a system for monitoring remote

systems (see abstract), similar to that of Kuban, but displays the cell in a manner that

more closely resembles that of the claimed invention (see figures 3 and 4). Crawford's

initial screen displays a plurality of rooms available for selection for closer view and

modification (see column 5, line 46 through column 6, line 34 and figures 3 and 4), and

the zoom-in screen that calls up details for a particular room, where the user is able to

modify attributes (alter the vital sign limits, signs monitored, patient status, etc.) and

view other preset attributes (room number, data, time, measured values, etc.) (see

column 6, lines 34-59 and figures 3 and 4). Crawford further teaches user-definable

attributes (selected via window [72] for display) and pre-set attributes (such as default

vital signs displayed before user selection of window [72]); and further teaches user-

definable attribute values (see the customizable vital sign limits of column 8, lines 29-

40), which may be pre-set attribute values (see the default vital sign limits of column 8,

lines 26-29) (see column 8, lines 22-45, column 9, lines 20-27, and figure 6). It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kuban and

Crawford before him at the time the invention was made to modify the tabular room

status display system of Kuban to include the zoom-in view as did Crawford. One

would have been motivated to make such a combination because this provides a more detailed view of a selected element on the display.

19.   With regard to claim 25, which teaches a method of graphically displaying room information, the method comprising, the displaying a matrix, Kuban teaches, in figure 3, the display of a matrix of rooms with associated status information. With regard to claim 25, further teaching a display and an arrangement for producing a cell, in the matrix, for being viewed on the display, Kuban teaches, in column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3, the display comprising cells where the cells display information regarding the current status of a room. With regard to claim 25, further teaching the cell having a plurality of modifiable attributes, and a controller for modifying the modifiable attributes, Kuban further teaches, in column 15, line 42 through column 16, line 2, the maid going through the process in which a worker enters their ID, and enters the room for processing, thereby changing the status of the room. Kuban further teaches, in column 13, lines 5-55 and in figure 3-5, cells under "CURRENT STATUS" that contain a plurality of modifiable attributes, namely the user can make the selected room status either "Occupied" or "Vacant" and also either "Clean" or "Dirty", these updated statuses are then displayed in the tabular display in the same cell. These room statuses are initially set to preset "historical room status" values before the user begins modifying (see column 13, lines 56-67). Crawford teaches a system for monitoring remote systems (see abstract), similar to that of Kuban, but displays the cell in a manner that more closely resembles that of the claimed invention (see figures 3 and 4). Crawford's initial screen displays a plurality of rooms available for selection for closer view and

modification (see column 5, line 46 through column 6, line 34 and figures 3 and 4), and

the zoom-in screen that calls up details for a particular room, where the user is able to

modify attributes (alter the vital sign limits, signs monitored, patient status, etc.) and

view other preset attributes (room number, data, time, measured values, etc.) (see

column 6, lines 34-59 and figures 3 and 4). Crawford further teaches user-definable

attributes (selected via window [72] for display) and pre-set attributes (such as default

vital signs displayed before user selection of window [72]); and further teaches user-

definable attribute values (see the customizable vital sign limits of column 8, lines 29-

40), which may be pre-set attribute values (see the default vital sign limits of column 8,

lines 26-29) (see column 8, lines 22-45, column 9, lines 20-27, and figure 6). It would

have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kuban and

Crawford before him at the time the invention was made to modify the tabular room

status display system of Kuban to include the zoom-in view as did Crawford. One

would have been motivated to make such a combination because this provides a more

detailed view of a selected element on the display.

20.   With regard to claim 27, which teaches that the display of secondary I formation

is restricted, Kuban further teaches, in column 4, lines 51-61, additional information that

is only available to system managers upon sign-on.

21.   With regard to claim 29, which teach authorization of a user being determined by

comparing a password provided by the user to a databank of passwords, Kuban further

teaches, in column 15, lines 42-61, the user entering an access code and ID to

implement the system.

22.   With regard to claim 37, which teaches a program storage device readable by

machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to

perform method steps for the graphical display of room information, the method

comprising, the displaying a matrix, Kuban teaches, in figure 3, the display of a matrix of

rooms with associated status information. With regard to claim 37, further teaching a

display and an arrangement for producing a cell, in the matrix, Kuban teaches, in

column 4, lines 30-61 and in figure 3, the display comprising cells where the cells

display information regarding the current status of a room. With regard to claim 37,

further teaching the cell having a plurality of modifiable attributes, and a controller for

modifying the modifiable attributes, Kuban further teaches, in column 15, line 42 through

column 16, line 2, the maid going through the process in which a worker enters their ID,

and enters the room for processing, thereby changing the status of the room. Kuban

further teaches, in column 13, lines 5-55 and in figure 3-5, cells under "CURRENT

STATUS" that contain a plurality of modifiable attributes, namely the user can make the

selected room status either "Occupied" or "Vacant" and also either "Clean" or "Dirty",

these updated statuses are then displayed in the tabular display in the same cell.

These room statuses are initially set to preset "historical room status" values before the

user begins modifying (see column 13, lines 56-67). Crawford teaches a system for

monitoring remote systems (see abstract), similar to that of Kuban, but displays the cell

in a manner that more closely resembles that of the claimed invention (see figures 3

and 4). Crawford's initial screen displays a plurality of rooms available for selection for

closer view and modification (see column 5, line 46 through column 6, line 34 and

figures 3 and 4), and the zoom-in screen that calls up details for a particular room,

where the user is able to modify attributes (alter the vital sign limits, signs monitored,

patient status, etc.) and view other preset attributes (room number, data, time,

measured values, etc.) (see column 6, lines 34-59 and figures 3 and 4). Crawford

further teaches user-definable attributes (selected via window [72] for display) and pre-

set attributes (such as default vital signs displayed before user selection of window

[72]); and further teaches user-definable attribute values (see the customizable vital

sign limits of column 8, lines 29-40), which may be pre-set attribute values (see the

default vital sign limits of column 8, lines 26-29) (see column 8, lines 22-45, column 9,

lines 20-27, and figure 6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art,

having the teachings of Kuban and Crawford before him at the time the invention was

made to modify the tabular room status display system of Kuban to include the zoom-in

view as did Crawford. One would have been motivated to make such a combination

because this provides a more detailed view of a selected element on the display.

Response to Arguments

23.   The arguments filed on 3-13-2006 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive. Reasons set forth below.

24.   The applicants' argue that the there is not teaching or suggestion in Kuban or

Crawford to convey room information using both pre-set and user-defined attributes that

comprise attribute values that can be pre-set and user-defined such that the user-

defined attributes and values may consist of attributes and values that may or may not

have been previously used with the apparatus.

25.   In response, the examiner respectfully disagrees, noting that the added element

of the claim "*that the user-defined attributes and values may consist of attributes and*

values that may or may not have been previously used with the apparatus" is not

positively recited; furthermore, Kuban teaches, in column 13, lines 5-55 and in figure 3-

5, cells under "CURRENT STATUS" that contain a plurality of modifiable attributes,

namely the user can make the selected room status either "Occupied" or "Vacant" and

also either "Clean" or "Dirty", these updated statuses are then displayed in the tabular

display in the same cell. These room statuses are initially set to preset "historical room

status" values before the user begins modifying (see column 13, lines 56-67). Crawford

teaches a system for monitoring remote systems (see abstract), similar to that of Kuban,

but displays the cell in a manner that more closely resembles that of the claimed

invention (see figures 3 and 4). Crawford's initial screen displays a plurality of rooms

available for selection for closer view and modification (see column 5, line 46 through

column 6, line 34 and figures 3 and 4), and the zoom-in screen that calls up details for a

particular room, where the user is able to modify attributes (alter the vital sign limits,

signs monitored, patient status, etc.) and view other preset attributes (room number,

data, time, measured values, etc.) (see column 6, lines 34-59 and figures 3 and 4).

26.   Crawford further teaches user-definable attributes (selected via window [72] for

display) and pre-set attributes (such as default vital signs displayed before user

selection of window [72]); and further teaches user-definable attribute values (see the

customizable vital sign limits of column 8, lines 29-40), which may be pre-set attribute

values (see the default vital sign limits of column 8, lines 26-29) (see column 8, lines 22-

45, column 9, lines 20-27, and figure 6).

Conclusion

27.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

28.   A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

29.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Dennis G. Bonshock whose telephone number is (571)

272-4047. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 6:30 a.m. - 4:00

p.m.

30.   If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

31.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

5-4-06
dgb

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ART UNIT 2173